

1888.

The year 1888 promises to be a year of splendid political developments, one and all redounding to the giery and triumph of a

# UNITED DEMOCRACY.

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### The Old and the New.

New parties seem to be springing up as thick as the chestnuts that strew the pages of the Congressional Record. So many and so evanescent are these new appearances that we cannot undertake to record any one which does not certify to its own existence and is not accompanied by its card both for publication and as a guarantee of good faith. You cannot walk the streets of any of the great Eastern cities now but some reformed sandwich man thrusts into your hands the glittering prospectus of a new political movement or uprising or departure. The mail bags will soon split themselves from repletion and ironical laughter over the innumerable political circulars sent to their uncertain destinations by the envelope writers of new political parties. What wealthy cranks or aspiring empirical politicians may stand behind these naturally flabby experiments it is vain to inquire. By the middle of next summer most of the "new parties" will be as dead as the Loco Focos or the Cotton Whigs. The parties, which now consist mainly of a treasurer without any treasury, and two

Parties are born, not made; and nothing in contemporary polities is more ridiculous than are the attempts of fifteen or twenty or a hundred persons with more or less of a magget i' th' brain to start a new party. It ter paper and envelopes with the name of a new party; but there has been no such cataclysm in politics that the survivors must take to living in caves and deserts by themselves, and forget old associations and habits. There is a vast amount of rubbish spoken and written about the fallure of the present important parties to represent vital principles and nolicles, and about the lurking or patent disposition of "young men" to kick at Demooracy and Republicanism, and seek Mugwumpery, that "realm of Chaos and old Night," or the Utopia of the Free Traders.

or three writers and type writers without

guile, will have ceased to be.

The fact is, and it has been rammed into the dullest comprehension by some events of the last part of 1887, that the spirit of netive partisanship and the desire to be grouped among one or the other of the two great parties, one or the other of which must be in power in the United States, have never been stronger than they are now.

A certain, apparently a growing, but still, number of our fellow citizens, believe that a prohibition party is a necessity; and they have left the Republicans and the Democrats ore insignificant number of our fellow citizens, have left the Democratic and the Reests of labor are distinct from other interests, and best advanced by a separate political party. It is not yet certain how many Labor parties will be running next fall, but there can be only one that will amount to much; and that, as a national party, cannot be founded upon Mr. HENRY GEORGE.

The next national contest, then, will be fought, as usual, between the Democrats and the Republicans with such aid or hindrance as both or either may receive from the Prohibitionists and the Labor men. The smallfry Labor parties, the various shades of the American" movement, the National Reformers, the Industrial Reformers, and all the rest of the unclassified and experimental parties will probably cease to exist by the ime the nominations of the two great parties have been made. American politics is no neares than ever to that chaotic condition in which some would like to see it.

## France and Italy at Loggerheads.

Whether the attempt to seize papers deposited at the French Consulate in Florence will have serious consequences, depends in a arge degree on the retention of the French Foreign Office by M. FLOURENS, which in turn hinges on the very precarious existence of the TIBARD Cabinet.

Since M. BARTHELEMY ST. HILAIRE, France has had no more conciliatory and peaceloving Minister of Foreign Affairs than is M. FLOURENS, which is curious in view of the fact that the latter's brother was a promi-

nent Communist. If the threatened recall of the French Amador to Italy should take place, and other acts of retaliation and provocation on the part of France should follow, the two coungies would be very apt to drift into war, a result of the utmost moment at the present time to Russia, since in the least favorable event it would hold back Italy from fulfilling her promise of assisting Germany and Austria. An outbreak of hostilities on the Savoyard frontier would offer, in other words, the pre-

des opportunity which the Czar is looking for. M. PLOURENS will no doubt try to avert ich consequences, having hitherto shown himself as much opposed as M. FERRY to a revenge policy, or to Continental complications of any kind. He has, it is true, aimed to bring about a good understanding with Russia and England, but not at the cost of a war with Germany, which Gen. BOULAN-GER and a former Minister of Foreign Affairs were known to favor. The present dispute with Italy will, therefore, be compromised by him, if possible. But what makes the Florentine incident awkward is the diffioulty of finding any basis of compromise without sacrificing vital claims of France

with relation to Tunis. If as France has steadfastly maintained, ctorate acquired by conquest over the Tunisian Regency superseded all conons and even treaties previously conjuded by the Bey, then the Italian courts bove no more right to take from the French Consulate the papers of the Tunislan Gen-

eral HUSSEIN, who lately died at Florence, than they would have if the deceased had been a French citizen. The Italiana, on the other hand, contend that subjects of the Bey of Tunis are not French citizens, that the socalled protectorate is not tantamount to annexation, nor has ever been so represented by France. Consequently, previous conventions were not space facto abrogated, and therefore the Italian courts, having acted in pursuance of a former treaty when they took possession of the Hussein papers, were within their right.

Plainly a somewhat nice question in international law is here involved, but the state of the public mind in Paris is not favorable just now to the calm discussion of such questions. The TIRARD Cabinet, which was a flimsy thing at best, was nearly shivered a few days ago in the debate touching the installation of the Prefect of the Seine in the Hotel de Ville for the purpose of coercing the intractable, not to say communistic, majority of the Municipal Council. It was only tacked together on that occasion by the joint votes of the Monarchists and Ferryists, and it is expected to go to pieces in the wrangle over a budget report which is impending. M. FLOURENS will simply aggravate the danger of his colleagues by exhibiting signs of a retreat from the position hitherto held by France that she has practically reduced Tunis to the condition of Algeria, and that Italy has no more cisim than any other foreign power to exercise special authority over the subjects of a coun-

try which has become French territory. Should M. FLOURENS leave the Foreign Office and be succeeded by a Minister accentable to the revenge party, this Florentine incident might easily become very grave. That is why the Cabinet crisis which again is imminent in France has a more than usually important bearing on the Euro-

The Public Schools. In his annual address to the Board of Edueation last Wednesday, President SIMMONS estimated that at the present time there are 12,000 children who cannot get into the publie schools for lack of room. Accordingly the Board is preparing plans and specifications for the erection during 1888 of nine new school buildings, with accommodations for 19,500 pupils.

But these new schools will hardly be ready for occupancy before there will be a demand for more, since the average annual increase of school children is now 5,000, and it will become greater as the population grows.

Already the school property of the city covers nearly forty acres, on which there are 184 buildings under the control of the Board of Education, the value of the sites and buildings being estimated at \$18,742,242. Yet, spite of all this outlay, 12,000 children still unable to get into the schools, and their number is increasing at is easy, and may seem to the participants | the rate of 5,000 a year. Meantime, too, the impressive, to formulate a ponderous plat- annual expenditures of the Board of Educaform, and to adorn a certain amount of let- tion amount to four millions of dollars, and as new school houses are put up they must be proportionately greater, for more teachers will be required, and the general cost of maintenance will be augmented until the sum becomes enormous.

In ten years there will probably have been added at least 60,000 to the total number of school children, and in twenty years more than 150,000, and if the scale of expense is kept up as now the annual outlay of the Board of Education will be doubled within a comparatively short period.

However great the cost, the people will continue to demand that the school accommodations shall be sufficient for the children requiring them, but as the expense increases they will carefully scrutinize the methods of administration of the school system, and be more exacting in their criticisms of the resuits of the instruction provided.

The great demand is for primary and rudimentary instruction merely, the upper with all respect be it said, an insignificant grades of the grammar schools containing a comparatively small number of pupils, who consist almost wholly of boys and girls who are undertaking to prepare themselves for to join it. A certain, apparently a decreas- admission into the Normal College and the ing, and, with all respect be it said, a still Lexington avenue college. Except for these colleges, there would be little or no r for maintaining the higher grades and conpublican parties in the belief that the inter- tinuing the school course longer than a year or two after the completion of the primary school course. There would be no necessity for more than one class of public schools, and those the primary schools, with a somewhat extended course.

Such a change and reform would of course

bring about a great saving in expense and much simplify the present complicated machinery of the educational system. But it would have an even more important moral effect. The public school instruction is now under fire from both the Catholic and Protestant camps, because of what each believes to be its irreligious tendency, and it seems likely that the assaults will grow more bitter. Their objections concern chiefly the instruction which goes beyond the merely primary and elementary, and is more influential in giving a bent to character and opinion. Even some of the most strenuous of the Roman Catholic opponents of the present system would be entirely satisfied if the public schools were limited to such rudimentary education extending through a few years only of a child's life. What they find fault with as dangerous to religious faith is the additional training which necessitates a longer course, and tends to fix the moral and intellectual tone and bent of the pupil. Buch superior instruction, they contend, with the concurrence of very many Protestants, should always have a religious foundation.

More than all, too, the only education for which the whole people can properly be taxed is the simple, elementary education which is requisite for every child and essen tial to the well being of a State governed by universal suffrage, and therefore in danger

# from the illiteracy of its citizens.

Life Here and in England. Outside of New York and a very few other large towns, the vital statistics of this country are too incomplete for any trustworthy comparison of American with English mortality, but the London Lancet obtains from the statistics of life assurance companies trustworthy data for comparing the duration of life here and there.

A few years ago tables were published showing the actual experience of thirty of our life assurance companies with more than 600,000 policies, a number large enough for valuable generalization. It appears from this table that the expectation of life of in sured males in the United States at twenty years of age is 42.1 years and of females 40.8 years. Similar English statistics make the expectation there precisely the same in the case of women, but one year less in the case

This greater expectation of life for Amer can men is maintained until the advanced age of eighty-four is reached, when the difference in our favor disappears. With women between forty and forty-seven the expectation of life is somewhat greater here than in England, but after forty-seven the

insured men after the age of fifty-three, while in England after the age of thirty-five the advantage is with the women, and continues increasingly to the end of life.

Of course insured lives are picked lives, the people obtaining policies being men and women who have been subjected to a medical examination to determine their general physical soundness. They are also indi-viduals who are removed from dangers to life and health incident to poverty, and a large part of them belong to the portion of society whose chances of life are always best-the people of moderate but sufficient ncomes derived from salaries and occupations in which they are not subjected to the strain and friction of affairs that break down

life by over anxiety. It is true that of recent years policies of life assurance have been largely taken out by men in active and vexatious business as a measure of precaution against its perils, and also for the securing of creditors, but the system commends itself more especially to men with stated incomes, as providing a method by which they can leave something to their families.

But as it is here, so it is in England, and therefore the Lancer's comparison is very valuable and suggestive. It seems to show for one thing, that the talk of the greater strain of life here is not supported by the facts, American men in corresponding positions having a little better chance of life than Englishmen.

#### New Sources of National Wealth.

The discoveries that are still frequently made by explorers in our land, and the new processes by which our undeveloped wealth is turned into material blessings, are calculated to convince us that our country is not yet thoroughly explored, nor its resources adequately understood. Exploration and science still find plenty of employment in the study of this continent. We no sooner learn the great practical utility of natural gas than we discover its existence in parts of Ohio and Illinois where it was hitherto unknown. Just as we are awaking to the fact that our processes of refining netroleum are crude and wasteful, and that its usefulness is likely in time to be vastly augmented by its employment as fuel and in many chemical industries, we learn of the discovery of great petroleum fields in the far West.

The Geological Survey has just issued the report of Mr. Kunz, its expert in gems, upon the recent considerable discoveries of valuable stones in the United States. The finds of garnets, amethysts, and other stones during the past year have already proved of some mercial importance. We are chiefly indebted to the California and National Geological Surveys for the discovery of our vast deposits of borax, which have already placed us among the largest producers of borax in the world. These surveys also discovered the large petroleum fields in California and Colorado. The Geological Survey has shown that large quantities of crude petroleum exist near the surface in the far West, and this petroleum is now under examination in the laboratory to discover the best methods of refining it.

The Survey has also found in the West great quantities of soda deposited by a natural process, so that the cost of its production is about one-third less than that of the sods found in Germany and other parts of the world. Its researches have also led to the discovery of vast deposits of sulphur, and there is now no danger that we shall ever lack the essentials for the home manufacture of gunpowder. Considerable deposits of phosphates used as fertilizers have also been discovered by the Geological Survey, chiefly in the Southern States.

The testimony of Prof. PowerL before the Joint Commission two years ago clearly showed that in his opinion the Geological Survey was achieving many valuable results in the investigation of coal, iron, copper petroleum, and sods. The Joint Commis sion, in its majority report, reached the same conclusion, and we have reason to expect from this Survey and from the various State surveys discoveries in the ture that will make no insign contributions to our wealth. The researches of the Geological Survey, for instance point to the probability that some of our Western Territories will in the future rival the Lake Superior region in the production of copper. It is certain that further scientific labor will not only add new materials to our wealth, but will also improve the methods by which these materials may be utilized and made to pay.

## Not an Easy Job.

Mr. W. D. HEDERWOOD of Claborne, Texas favors us with a letter proposing to amend the Constitution of the United States so that no alien can acquire title to any real estate in this country, or lease any real estate without the special permission of Congress and the President, except in the case of diplomatic or consular representatives of foreign Governments, who may hire buildings with out such permission.

We are requested to discuss this propo sition, and for the present we have only one remark to make upon it. This is that no amendment to the Constitution of the United States is practicable. That instrument is virtually beyond the power of mendment as regards all ordinary subjects and all ordinary occasions. It can only be amended under the pressure of events most exceptional and improbable, and then only in respect of matters on which the entire people are unanimous.

Accordingly it is not necessary to consider Mr. Underwood's proposal in any detail, or to argue its merits one way or the other.

The Portuguese explorer, Major Canval-Yo, has returned to the West Coast from Lun-ds. the kingdom of the Musts Yamvo, in inner Africa, where he has spent three years. His expedition was fitted out at great cost for the purpose of exploring the largest native king-dom in equatorial Africa, of establishing a chain of stations, if possible, from the Portuguese settlements far into Lunda, and of open ing the way for European trade in the domin-ions of the powerful despot who rules a country as large as Germany, and to whom three hundred chiefs owe allegiance. The Berlin Conference thought it wise for the new Congo State to let the Musta Yamvo severely alone, and the care taken to exclude every part of his dominion from the sphere of King LEGFOLD's enterprise accounts for the strange irregulari-ty in the southern boundary of the new State. The brief announcement of Major Carval-

ro's return says that his mission met with great success. With the permission of the Musta Yamvo he established ten stations and brought back with him fifteen natives of Lunda, including the son of the ruler. who have assured the Portuguese that the Musta Yamvo desire traders in his country, that the roads will be kept open, and commerce facilitated.

The rulers of Lunda were known by their title of Musta Yamvo long before inner Africa was visited by modern travellers, and there were many speculations as to the location and extent of the country. After many long journeys had been made into the interior, Lunda was still a sealed book. Lavinceron, Camethan in England, but after forty-seven the difference is slightly in favor of England. In this country the expectation of life is and its people, and both Drs. Poggs and Buck-

capital of the Musto Yamvo at Mussumbs Neither of these noted travellers, however, were permitted to pass through the country.

There is little doubt that the story of Major CARVALTO'S travels for three years in this region, which has so long excited the curiosity of geographors, will be one of the most uniqu and important of recent contributions to African exploration.

Some of our free trade contemporaries are much pleased at the idea that Mr. RANDALL was defeated in the Pennsylvania Democratic State Committee at Harrisburg on Wednesday.
"It is a severe check," says the New York Times, "to Mr. RANDALL, who sought to use the committee, so far as possible, to defeat the tariff reform policy of the President." "It is a matter of congratulation that the first serious attempt to rescue the Democratic party in Pennsylvania from the treacherous hauds of the RANDALL Ring has been so far successful." In a similar strain our estsemed contemporary, the Staats-Zeitung, describes the event as "an annihilating blow for RANDALL. The bitterest thing for him, and the most important in general point of view, is the passage of the resolution in which CLEVELAND's project of tariff revision is approved. Thus, Randall, as a protectionist, is defeated in the most outspoken protectionist State; and the Democrats Pennsylvania have succeeded in emancipating themselves from protectionist prejudices and in writing tariff revision on their banner.

This deep joy of our New York free traders does not seem to be entirely shared by the free Brother SINGERLY of the Philadelphia Record. and he simply says that Mr. RANDALL's friend SANDERS was turned out "because he had not proved to be a successful campaigner," while the new Chairman, Mr. Kisner, is "a straight Democrat, has fine executive abilities, and is no man's man."

In the same sense that wise old protectionist expert, Col. McClurk, writes in the Philadelphia Times that it was all only a renewal of a party quarrel of long standing. "simply the annual fight under slightly changed conditions; and settled anything, unless Mr. Kisnen's genius for harmonizing be indeed phenomenal." This is a good deal like saying that it isn't

much of a flood after all.

Mayor Hewirr has found great fault with his official quarters in this city of late, and, we have no doubt, with entire justice. We feat, this country that would really suit Mr. HEWITT. barring a few minor but not inaccurate criticisms on his part, and that is the Executive apartments in the White House.

And in saying this we feel bound to say also that the number of persons who wish he may get there is larger than it was when he first en tered his uncomfortable room in the City Hall.

The State Convention of the New York Prohibitionists will be held at Syracuse on the third and fourth days of July. The main business of the Convention will be transacted on Independence Day, and doubtless the Congruous expression to apply to a meeting of Drys-with the fervor, patriotism, and hope appropriate to that day. Still, men anxious to restrict the freedom of their fellow citizens might perhaps select a more appropriate day than the Fourth of July for their Convention.

It is reported that the Sultan longs to have Mr. JAY GOULD OF Mr. W. K. VANDEBBILT build a system of Asiatic railroads. Thus are men in the pursuit of pleasure harassed by unwelcome business. Still, the time will come when the securities of the Asian Central, Bosporus Underground, Bagdad Elevated, Thibet Grand Trunk, and Samarcand Jigger (preferred) will be listed at the Stock Exchange.

That tedious old chestnut "in our midst" is bad enough, but Donahoe's Magazine likes it stronger, and writes "within our midst." And this magazine is published in Boston! It is a curious fact that the worst outrages

upon the English language are very apt to The Yale graduates will make merry and speeches at Deimonico's to-night, and the usual congeries of talent will appear. At least three Presidential candidates, two of whom are

Yalensians, are billed to speak pieces, Mr. Depew, Mr. Evants, and Mr. Hewitt, It is whispered that Mr. Evants sat up all last night cutting down his speech to deliverable length. Mr. DEPEW and Mr. HEWITT don't have to cut down their own speeches, but each hopes to We are surprised that when our esteemed

contemporary, the Turf, Field and Farm, advocates a new road for trotting horses in the Central Park, it should display such an ignorance of the place as this:

"The road riders cannot understand why they have not just as much right to a special road in Central Park as the horseback riders."

Has the image of the Park gone from our contemporary's mental retina? There is a special road for the road riders now, just as there is a special road for equestrians. All vehicles go on the carriage road, and all saddle horses, notwithstanding they are not forbidden from the carriage road, go on the bridle path. There is a way for each, and one is as well off

as the other. But the promoters of the movement for still another road for light trotting wagons want much greater conveniences than are now granted to the saddle horses. They want a speedway or a course so entirely devoted to their use that they can go at full speed, and transfer the brushing field, which now lies be-

youd the Harlem River, to the heart of the city. We wish they might, but if the city were to prepare the Park for the privilege the drivers desire, it would, in justice, have to build another road whereon the riders could cut their horses cose too, and shake off the present restrict tion of twelve miles an hour for a burst at full gallon. The present bridge path would not permit such liberty; so, if the trotters should be indulged with this sort of amateur race track, the runners would have to have the same favor. But the fact is that there is

The controversy between those bloody opposites, the HATFIELDS and the MoCoys of Kentucky, continues to be somewhat impassioned. The latest bulletin from the seat of war reports the passing away of five McCors, two by quick cossitates a diminution of the HATFIELDS, and the next census of the HATFIELD-McCox country bids fair to show a decided decrease of population. But it is not for strangers to say how people shall amuse themselves

Once more it is said that the athletic sandstone ceiling of the Assembly Chamber at Albany is in danger of falling upon the heads of the patriots it looks down upon. The power of sloquence has seldom been more strikingly illustrated. There are stories of leviathan-lunged orators who have talked "the roof off." but has there ever before been an instance of persuading a stone ceiling to its fall?

The hamlet of Chicago comes on apace. ew weeks ago wolves were found in its most thickly settled parts, and now "the largest tarantula ever seen there" has been found. There is nothing monotonous about Chicago.

## A New Plan Proposed for D. B. Hill.

From the St. Louis Republican. Now that Gov. Hill of New York has succeeded in downing Tom Platt, the Democrate of this part of the country are quite willing that Gov. Hill should be nom-mated for another term. The Governor is evidently in ing for the Vice Presidency on the Cartisle

A correspondent in Brooklyn asks us to pub ish a simple remedy for a serious malady. We comply with his request by advising him to consult a competent physician. It takes skill experience, and knowledge of all the facts to treat, such a patient on he. GREAT COLLECTION OF PORTRAITS.

Exhibition dust Closed in Philadelphia A very interesting exhibition has just losed at the Philadelphia Academy of Fine Arts. It was a loan collection of some 500 hisorical portraits, carefully and scientifically catalogued, dating from the earliest colonial to omparatively recent days, the hither line having been drawn at portraits of living persons by deceased artists or of deceased persons by living artists.

No historical collection of any kind has ever been got together in America which even approached this one in interest. And nowhere but in Philadelphia could the effort have been so successful. We are apt to forget how paramount was the social importance of Phila-leiphia in the earlier years of our history. We remember that Boston was once a greater city than New York, but we scarcely remember that Philadelphia long outranked them both, and that our elder artists were even more active there than in the New England town. The chief artistic interest of the exhibition

centred in the fifty-nine pictures attributed to Stuart. When we saw the Stuart collection some six or seven years ago in Boston we imagined that we saw the best of his works, and more than enough to reveal the full scope of his talent. But here were a number of pictures which were better and at least one which for pictorial completeness Stuart never equalled. As is well known. his best works are simple heads, and even when his half lengths are good, they are almost invariably marred by a childishly careless painting of the hands. But the portrait of Dr. William Smith, the first Provost of the University of Penusylvania, is a three-quarter length, admirably composed in a way which somewhat suggests Sir Joshua, and well painted throughit, though most beautifully, of course, in the head. The old gentleman is seated writing at ments, while a half-drawn curtain behind him shows a charming bit of river landscape. The pleture is as delightful in color as in composition; the pose is vital, vigorous, and individual; the hands are well imagined and fairly well painted, and the head is a marvel for technical skill as well as for the rendering of character.

Next in interest in this exhibition was a bust portrait of the Marquis of Casa-Yrujo. Minister from Spain to the United States. A more attractive, youthful head was never put on canvas, and no painter who ever lived could have shown more spirit in the pose, or more vitality in the audacious glance of the ever while the daring expedient of relieving the head and the brown velvet coat against a background of cloud-flecked blue sky has resulted in a singular freshness and charm of color. Next to it hung the portrait of the Marquis's handsome American wife, Sally McKean; and among the other Stuarts-scarce one of which ought to be ferson portrait, painted for President Madison: beautiful bust of Mrs. James Greenleaf in a picturesque blue and white dress; the well-known portrait of Joseph Hopkinson; a head of George Reignold with very strong flesh tones; another of Joseph Anthony, remarkable for the richness of color and strength of tone achieved with very thin painting; and a charming group of Robert Hare and his little daughter.

A review of them all confirmed with emphasis the impression that Stuart was not merely a good but a really great portrait painter. often indifferent to his work, and therefore often painting badly, though never without that inexplicable charm which may make even a poor picture interesting, and so singularly gifted that even among his very best works there are scarcely two which are alike in the quality of their excellence.

The supposed Copleys in the collection were few, and among them only one seemed authentic, an interesting but not wholly representative picture of a very old lady.

Elliot, Chester Harding, and Ingham were also not well represented. But, on the other hand, certain artists of local repute revealed themselves in a wholly unexpected way. We had thought cheaply, perhaps, of Neagle; in deed, we had only known him as the painter of Stuart's portrait. But many works here showed him to have been an artist of great technical skill and remarkable power of characterization. and one, a small head of a florid elderly man with a vivid semi-humerous expression, was a masterly work, which might hang side by side with the best of any age and not suffer by the contact. A large portrait of Dr Pilmore was almost equally remarkable for strength of conception and masculine skill of brush.

Sully, too, who has thought much of him save as a weakly pleasing painter of languishingly pretty women and effeminat vas, in truth, in many of the very numerous portraits here: but in others he showed unexpected strength with no loss of grace, while in one or two, notably in a large full length of Gen. Jonathan Williams, he claimed one of the triumphs of the exhibition. Charles Wilson Peale again-every one has heard of his museum, and knows that he painted innumerable portraits for it; but who could have anticipated the great excellence that very many of them showed or the variety that marked their excellence? Bass, Otis. Hesselius, Thomas Duché. Matthew Pratt, these, too, had been merely names, if so much as that, to the present generation, but they now revealed themselves as artists worthy of much more than mere respect. Benjamin West was represented in a very interesting way by several very early portraits so crude and childish as to have a truly archaic look, and then by a group of three figures, which showed a strong Venetian influence, and was incomparably better than the huge historical canvases by which he is usually known. There was a good portrain by Morse; an early one by Daniel Huntington, intrinsically not remarkable, perhaps, but very remarkable by its superiority to his later works; three Leslies; an interesting William Page, a group of his wife and child; two small and excellent heads by Trumbull, and, among the miniatures, a superb head by Malbone peared, and Kneller and Lely, Sir Thomas Lawrence, Mme. Lebrun, Opic, Allan Ramsay, Angelica Kaufmann, and Kaulbach, some with apparent right and others with weaker titles to credence. Nor should the younger Micrevelt be forgotten. One of the best of all the great Dutch portrait painters, he appeared at his own very best in a superb full length, which was doubly interesting as being the portrait of John of Barnevelde. Amid all the travesties and forgeries of great old masters which we possess in America we own a few genuine treasures, and this Microvelt is cortainly one of

the first half dozen among them. The anonymous portraits were not the least engaging of the collection, and one among them, a rather small half length of Dr. John Morgan, who died in 1789, was a veritable musterpiece. And, then, when we searched, not so much for artistic as for historic value, how rich was the harvest! To see the group of Franklin portraits only would have been well worth a longer journey than that from New York to Philadelphia, for in them the highest historic interest was combined with great artistic value. The most striking was Martin's, the often-engraved three-quarter length which shows Franklin seated at his writing table resting his chin on his thumb. It is a vigorous siece of painting, as well as a most precious likeness of the philosopher in middle life, when he still wore a white wig and a gold-laced light-blue coat: and it is admirably preserved in all the clear harmony of its strong colors Near it hung the well-known older head painted by Duplessis in Paris, another by Matthew Pratt, and two by Peale, one of these last being perhaps the most satisfactory of all as a presentment of the philosopher, and a very admirable piece of painting, too.

The Washingtons were only less interesting. and were more numerous—nine in all. Three were by Stuart: one a replica of the Athenmum portrait, another a replica of the Lansdowns portrait, and the third believed by the best and most conscientious judges to be the original Vaughan portrait, and therefore the original by Stuart, painted from life in Philadelphia in

1795. Two more of the nine were by Wright. one of them considered his original, painted near Princeton in 1783. One was by Wertmuller and the remaining two by Peals. The chief of these was the full length which was ordered by Congress and begun at Valley Forge. There are two other versions of the same design, but this is believed to be the original, which Congress falled to purchase, and which, therefore, passed into Peale's Museum. It is an interesting contrast to our other likenesses of Washington, having much of the accepted character. and yet a certain debonnair, almost dashing aspect, which we are not used to imagine in the original.

Among the most important of the remaining

pictures was a likeness of the father of William

Penn, the Admiral Bir William, attributed with a query mark to Lely, but much too good for his brush. The elder Booth, De Witt Clinton, Cuvier, and Lord Erskine (by Stuart), Edwin forrest, Thomas Gallaudet, Gazzaniga, the prima donna; Joseph Harrison, the engineer: rancis Hopkinson, the signer, and other signers more than one; the sculptor, Houdon; Alexander von Humboldt (painted from life in this country), Jackson, Madison, Charles and Fanny Kemble, Macaulay (painted by Ingham), Chief Justice Marshall, and Michaux, the botanist who first wrote systematically of the flora of our continent; William Pitt, Alexander Pope. Joseph Priestley, David Rittenhouse, Madame Bush, Sarah Siddons, Thaddeus Stevens, Benjamin West, John Thomson, who built our first railroad; Bishop White; Wilson, the ornithologist, and Lafayette. These are a few of the most famous faces which were presented. and surely they are enough to prove that even an American with no eye for art might have found it worth while to study the collection. And if we knew our Philadelphia, what more impressive than to see every important local family represented, and often by many members in several successive generations?

If one thing was more surprising than the collection itself, this was the way in which it had

been hung, and, especially, had been catalogued. The pictures were grouped, as was eminently desirable, so that all the works of each artist hung together, exceptions having been made only in such cases as those of the Franklin and Washington portraits; and admirable judgment had been shown in giving the morprominent places to the best examples. The estalogue numbers ran alphabetically, according to the names of the persons portrayed, and in the back of the catalogue was another alphabetical list of artists with cross references to all their pictures in the collection. To each name, whether of subject or of painter, a biographical notice was appended, giving a vast amount of information, often of so recondite a sort that one might look for it in vain in any praviously published book. Only an accom plished and enthusiastic antiquary could have written such a catalogue, which, now that the exhibition is over, remains not only as a permanent witness to its importance, but as s permanent treasure for all lovers of American art and all students of American history. Its author is Mr. Charles Henry Hart, to whom must also be given the credit for the first idea of the exhibition and for most of the labor of various kinds which it involved. In selecting and gathering the pictures-no small labor. since it meant in many cases persuading reluctant owners to part for a time with the most cherished ornaments of their homes-he was assisted by Mr. Charles Hutchinson; but in hanging, as in cataloguing, he took the whole responsibility upon himself.

It has been said that Philadelphia is not reowned as a centre of artistic activity: but the fault lies with its artists and its public, not with its promoters of art. Where in New York is the public institution which would think of attempting an exhibition of this sort, or could give it room on its walls? And where is the scholar, at once a connoisseur in art and an antiquary, who could manage it so successfully, or who would give the time and labor needful to put into a mere catalogue so much patient research and so much literary skill?

From the New Brttain Demo

Washington, Jan. 17.—The most important event since the arrival of the Corean Embassy has been the appearance of the Governor of Arizona in Washington. He has engaged a suite of rooms at the Ebbitt, next to those occupied by the Corean Embassy. He appeared at the Capitol on the day after his arrival, soliciting Government aid in the development of the Territory. Mesars, Randail, Cummings. Holman, Vance, Milis, Fitch, Cox. Mofett, and other old members of the House recognized him as a Democrat and a biblical Hittite.

Most of these gentlemen are interested in Arizona mining companies, and are evidently favorably disposed toward the Governor's aspirations. The only man in the House who seemed to be unfriendly with the Governor was Mr. Lehibach of Newark, N. J. He was afterward introduced to the Governor by the Hon. Steven V. White, said to be a member of the Mining Exchange of New York. When the Governor appeared upon the floor of the House he was warmly greated by the Hon. Marcus Aurelius Smith, delegate from Arizona. Mr. Smith first introduced the Governor to the delegate from No Man's Land. The delegate a foresaid introduced him to the delegate from Cklahoma. The latter gentleman passed him on to the Hon. James Buchanan of New Jersey. The Governor greated Mr. Buchanan as a Democrat, and asked him how much tobacco he had raised on the farm at Wheatland during the last year. Mr. Buchanan replied that, by the advice of Zach Taylor, the old member from Memphia he had planted Jerusalem artichokes in the place of tobacco, and had resped a Democratic victory.

Toward evening the Governor of Arizona and his staff donned their war paint and appeared in the corridors and committee rooms of the House. Their point dappuis was artesian wells in Arizona. They circulated from one end of the Capitol to the other—from the Bennte library to the crypt where dead Congressmen are kept in the basement. The journey exceeded in results the travels of Marco Polo to Kubial Khan, for they not only captured Mr. Blount of Georgia in their

ell project is greatly elated with the result Gov. Zulick is greatly elated with the result flus mission to Washington. The President of Secretary Lamont are said to be much leased with him. Everything indicates favorble weather in the future, although the sky is ow overcast and the merry jingle of sleigh sells is heard.

and weather in the future, although the sky is now overcast and the merry jingle of sleigh bells is heard.

One of the most important components of the measure is said to be the Hon. S. S. Cox of New York. Like a true state-man representing an inventive and manufacturing district, he is said to favor the introduction by Congressional aid of artesian wells in Arizona. He is reported to have said that it will open millions of acres to settlement which have hereiofore iain dormant. The eyes of the Hon. Samuel J. Bandall are said to have been opened to the interests of the Government, the necessities of the people and to the development of Arizona. A bill will be introduced to cover all the interests involved, and will be referred to the Committee on Territories. Mr. Springer, the Chairman of said committee, is a man of broad views and terrestrial comprehension. Recognizing as he does the breadth and magnificence of the project, he may favor the measure, and teeming millions yet to inhabit the now barren land may cherish fondly the memory of the statesman who made by his wisdom the desert verily to blossom as the rose.

One of Our Cat's Cholecat Lunches From the Atlanta Constitution. We believe that most of the civil service re-

We call the attention of the young writers for the press and the old writers too for that matter-to a monthly magazine published in Boston and styled the Mriter it is edited by W. H. Hills and Robert Luce, two newspaper men who are connected we believe, with the Boston Daily Globe. It is full of sensible, straightforward, unaffected advice, and accurate information concerning the details of literary production. the details of literary production. The beginner and the oldest stager can alike find profitable reading in this the oldest staper can alike find profitable reading in this little magazine. The Writer costs only one dollars year, and see opactical help it is easily worth from ten to twenty times that sum, on account of the yeat and warted amount of monsense which it does not contain.

THE NIAGARA ION BRIDGE Baring Consections Girl the First of Her Sex to Venture Acres.

Sex to Venture Acres.

From the Ingale Center.

One of the finest and largest ice bridges that Niagara has had in many years formed in the gorge in front of Prospect Park yesterday morning about 1 o'clock, it extends from in front of the Canadian fails to a point far down the river in front of what is commonly known as the pleasure ground. It has all the appearance of being firmly locked, and locks as if had "come to stay." The sreater body of ice is most firmly locked in the widest part of the river, and those who have seen many bridge formations say this is favorable to it staying for some weeks. In places it is tossed many feet high, and the mountainous ridges run in all directions. One ridge far out in the centre has a pole stuck up on which waves a handlerschief placed there by that nervy fellow. McCloy, Standing on the cliff it is a beautiful sight, but to be fully appreciated it must be viewed from below, when all its roughness and beauty can be better seen. The first one to cross it was Thomas Conroy, who passed over from this side to the Canadian about 8 o'clock yeaterday morning and returned accompanied by Juck Le Biond. The first lady who possessed sufficient nerve to undertake the journey across was Miss Mamie L. Edwards of Bridgeport. Conn., who crossed from the Canadian shore to this side about 8 o'clock this afterneon, in company with William Edwards of Niagrars Falls. Ont. whose guest she is. After crossing Miss Edwards visited Goat Island so as to get a river view from all points of the bridge of which she has the honor of being the first lady to cross.

It is aurprising when one looks back to see how near the same time in the year these formation was on Jan. 15, and the second ormation remained thirteen weeks: when it came time remained thirteen weeks: when it came it carried away over 100 feet of the inclined railway building. The Fark company, who were then in possession, cleared away the debris and cut a tunnel through the lees by 16 feet and about 25 long, so as to reach the bridge proper. From the Buffulo Courier.

What a Pennsylvania Marriage Law has

The Pennsylvania Marriage License law has greatly increased the fees of Camden ministers and Justices during the last year, but as it has not sensibly diminished the number of divorces it is denounced as a failure. There is no magic in a license law that can make people more wise and considerate in choosing life partners than if no such law existed. The license law was aimed against the scandalous marriage of minors and of couples one of which was airoady wedded. It has practically accomplished that object, as such marriages have nearly ceased in this State since the passage of the law. No sensible person supposed that the law would have much more effect upon divorces than upon drunkenness or lying. It was not expected that it would cure all the evils under the sun or change human nature. From the Philadelphia Press

#### A Phonomonon of the House. Prop the Kansas City Times.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 15.—A singular optical delusion is noticeable in the hall of the House. When members descend by short steps from the main entrance, coming toward the Speaker's desk, they elongate as they approach, and going the other way shorten in stature, which recalls the peculiar effect of defective panes of glass. The optical phenomenon must be observed from the galleries, and it is really amusing to watch its effect when, for example, Mr. Merriman of New York, a gentleman of low stature, descends toward the Speaker's desk in company with a tailer man, like Woodburn of Nevada. a six footer. They elongate and shorten relatively, according to the way they are going.

#### Your Pe and Qa. From the Cornhill Magazine

Why must we be careful of those letters more than of others? Because in the olden days the hoet kept his customers' scores in chalk on the panels of the doors. P stood for pint and Q for quart, and it behooved the guest to watch his score lest he should exceed his proper number of Ps and Qs. To suit or to fit to a T is a plain allusion to the carpentor's T, which is much used in mechanics and drawings.

#### Payared Kentucky Legislators From the Louisville Courter-Journal.

FRANKFORT, Ky., Jan. 16.—Each member of the Louisville delegation received by express to-day a case of fine whiskey and a box of cigars, with the compliments of the Mutual Protective Association of Louisville. Each member was also in receipt of a letter which advised him that the Escutive Committee of the association would be in Frankfort shortly to see the members.

## BUNBEAMS.

-There is a thrifty woman living at Briar Creek, this State. Not long ago her husband died, and she took the headstone from his first wife's grave and

and it dressed over and relettered for his grave -William H. Brown of New Haven told a funny story the other day to G. W. Green. Both laughed heartily, and then Brown, with a gasp, fell back dead. Some trouble with the heart is supposed to be the cause —One of the paying professions of Paris is said to be that of trunk packer. In many of the little trunk shops you can hire for forty cents an hour a man who will pack your trunks artistically, folding expensive gowns and other garments in tissue paper, and stowing away delicate brick-brac in the safest way.

Niemann, the singer, and his wife, Niemann-Raabe, the astress, have never seen each other on the stage, and have both promised that they never will. Each is said to think that the other's presence would cause a genuin-break down, or rather break up, on the stage. -A woman in Wilton, who thought that

-A New York correspondent writes that

she deserved a pension, tried to get one, but failed be-cause her marriage took place after her husband's dis-charge from the army. But she didn't give up. She investigated her first husband's record, found that he was a soldier in the Mexican war, and has just received a -On Christmas Day, as the bark St. Kilda, which has just reached Hoston, was in a gale off Num-tucket South Shoat, two pigeons flew on board, both hav-

ing messages fastened to their legs. One was caught and this message read: "Dec. 24, 11 A.M. Left the steamer Norwesich, off Cape Heniopen. This bird be-longs to John Mickiejobn, Philadelphia." -Connecticut's boss cider maker is Samcollinectation by the state of the state of the several acres of ground; he grinds up thousands of bushels of applies yearly, and supplies the large hotels of the country with cider. He has made a big fortune at the bushels of the state of ess, but doesn't look it, for he wears clothes of an an

cient cut and an old-fashioned stock and collar -For over 100 years there has been in the Congregational Church at Pittsfield, Mass., a sunrise prayer meeting on Now Year's Day. This year the rector of the Episcopal church, a colored paster, the Haptist parson, and the Uniterian heiped the Congregational minister conduct the services, and among the worship pers were Senator Dawes and Congressman Rockwell.

-Here are four sentences said to be taken from a composition written by a Philadelphia pupil after hearing a lecture on physicions: "The human body is made up of the head the thorax, and the abdomen. The head contains the brains, when there is any. The thorax contains the heart and the lungs. The abdomen contains the bowels, of which there are five, A. H. I. O. and U. and sometimes W and Y."

-A big owl boarded a train on the Boston and Lowel Railroad the other evening perching on the front of the locomotive just under the headiight. At Arlington the locomotive was shifted to the rear of the train, and there was much switching and bell ringing and whistling; but the owl sat quietly through it all, and then rode to Boston, where he was captured and

taken home by the fireman. -A Ponnsylvania clergyman says that several years ago, when he was preaching in a South Carolina town, the colored people of the town were con-siderably disturbed by the building of a Unitarian church, which they called a "no-hell church." One night it burned down, and there was great rejoicing among the orthodox bretters. "Now dem wicked sin-bers will done come into de foll," they said. "If dey can't stop de flab in dis wor!" dey can't stop it in do nex!."

-Of the twenty-six widows of Revolutionary soldiers drawing pensions from the Government, three, at least, are out West. Mrs. Betsey Waltingford, who is 92, tives in Mankato, Minn. She was its when she married Jonathan Wallingford, who was 50 years old, and had served all through the war of the Revolution Mrs. Sarah B. Dabney of Barry, Ill., is 80 years old. Sh was 18 when she married John Q. Dabney, who was 57 years old. Mrs. Olive Charlotte Morton of Olio, Mich., is S years old. She also was 18 when she married l'ete uman, a veteran of 67 years. He enhated as a soldie in the war for independence when but 14 years old and served six years and a half without receiving a scratch

or being ill a day. The Pratt Manufacturing Company publish their "Handbook for the Year 1888" in their wonted luxurious typography with a learned motto in Latin:

"Virtute ambire oportet, non favitoribus. Sat habet favitorum semper, qui recte facit." The meaning of which is that he who salis good good will have lots of customers. But there are not many campanies of petroleum refiners that can recort to the Koman classics for, a trade mark.